



## **Boris Cherny**

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# **How the roles might look in the future**

Engineering, product, design and data science.. melting into a new kind of role.

[Read the original on X → x.com/bcherny](https://x.com/bcherny)

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As engineering, product, design, DS, etc. melt into a new kind of role, I was reflecting on what roles might look like in the future. For example, when I look at the Claude Code team I see what I think is five archetypes:

- **Prototyper:** comes up with brand new ideas; churns out many ideas, most of which don't ship
- **Builder:** quickly turns a prototype/idea into production-grade product/infra
- **Sweeper:** cleans up the UI, simplifies the code and system, unships, optimizes performance
- **Grower:** takes a product that has been built and iterates on it to improve Product-Market Fit
- **Maintainer:** owns a mature system to make it secure, reliable, fast, and efficient as it scales

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Many people span across 2 roles, and sometimes 3 roles. I also notice that these roles are not really tied to job function -- eg. across Anthropic, some designers match category 1, some 2, some 3; same for engineers, PM, DS.

**A healthy team needs a mix of these, depending on the product:**

- A product that is new and pre-PMF needs people that are strong at **1+2+3**
- A product that is growing and has found PMF needs **2+3+4** and some **5**
- A product that has strong PMF needs **3+4+5** and some **2**

**Maybe product roles of the future will look more like this, and less like the domain-specific roles of today?”**

## WHAT I'M SEEING

# Already happening, in small businesses

### BUSINESS TEAMS

Marketing and finance build their own automations and dashboards, in VBA and Python

### THE HANDOFF

When it has to become a real, secure tool, it goes to a developer, or me, to build out and harden

### DEVELOPERS

Maintain it, secure it, and now work full-stack across every language and platform

### DATA SCIENCE

More models, more robust, better validated, refreshed more often

**The work is moving across the team. Job titles matter less and less.**